

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action dated March 29, 2004. Claims 1-9 are pending in the application. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested.

The Examiner had responded to Applicants' arguments centering on the argument that "the step of connecting is done under the control of the intermediate node and not by a user at the user node or by any action at the user node . . . user cannot prevent this from happening . . . prevent such connection." The Examiner did not find this as persuasive in view of the *Hudetz* patent, wherein the Examiner is of the opinion that *Hudetz* clearly teaches a local computer that is provided with a bar code reader and that the computer at the user location can access a service provider to forward this bar code information thereto, and the server can then access the data base and retrieve an internet address. The Examiner then is of the opinion that, since the server has information about the product, it "controls" every connection and the user cannot prevent this from happening. In view of this, the Examiner is of the opinion that the intermediate node "guarantees" the connection accordingly. Applicants disagree with this reading of *Hudetz*. The *Hudetz* reference defines a system that provides for the transmission of an HTML page to the user computer. The user computer then determines what to do with this information. First, the primary purpose of *Hudetz* in the main embodiment is to provide a list of URLs for the user to select from. There is some information as to an "automatic" operation wherein information is sent back to the user computer to provide for a "jump" operation. However, the *user computer* controls this operation. It is a user computer that determines what to do with the information received and, therefore, there can be no instruction code to command the user computer to jump to a location. Therefore, without this instructional code, it is impossible for the service light to control this computer.

Claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by *Hudetz et al.* This rejection is respectfully traversed.

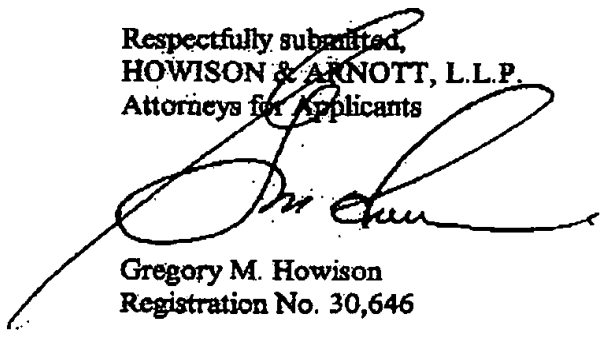
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For the reasons described above, Applicants believe that the *Hudetz* reference is deficient in that it does not show the control aspect of the claim in that no instructional code is transmitted by the server to the user computer to cause the user computer to connect to a location. All that is sent is information which a user computer then can utilize in accordance with its operating program to make a determination as to whether the user computer is connected to that site. As such, the server cannot "insure" that the user computer is connected to the appropriate site. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102 rejection with respect to Claims 1-9.

Applicants have now made an earnest attempt in order to place this case in condition for allowance. For the reasons stated above, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of the claims as amended. Please charge any additional fees or deficiencies in fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0780/PHLY-24,747 of HOWISON & ARNOTT, L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,
HOWISON & ARNOTT, L.L.P.
Attorneys for Applicants



Gregory M. Howison
Registration No. 30,646

GMH/yoc/cr

P.O. Box 741715
Dallas, Texas 75374-1715
Tel: 972-479-0462
Fax: 972-479-0464
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